

IT WAS A BOOMERANG

Railroad Commissioner Cappellari Courtied Investigation, But

A LOOSE SYSTEM OF BOOKKEEPING,

the American news exchange and the short, checked career.

Railroad Commissioner Cappellar, Republican State Chairman of Ohio, is the

latest victim of an investigation which he courted. A legislative committee reports that Mr. Cappellari's system of keeping account of State money was not of the best. Then the history of the American News Exchange, of which Cappellari was President, is reviewed, and the report infers that the Postoffice Department did right in closing up a concern which appeared to be

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]
COLUMBUS, April 12.—The Legislative Committee appointed some weeks ago to investigate certain charges made against Railroad Commissioner Cappellar, made their report to the Senate this evening, and it

The investigation was asked for by Cappellar. It was made necessary by the statements of E. J. Fanning, chief clerk, who was discharged. The committee regret that they were unable to interview Mr. Fanning, of the "Big Four," as a witness, whom they regarded important.

The report is divided into two branches—Mr. Cappellar's official conduct and the Mansfield Herald story. They find that he did not give that "close personal attention to his duties which sound public policy would indicate as proper," that he drew funds amounting to \$100,000 and \$200 in 1901 applied for outside expenses named in "the performance of official duties," without keeping an expense account. Mr. Cappellar and Fanning's testimony were at variance, and no inference in the absence of record, but they insist that the "system" furnishes no protection to the

A PECULIAR INSTITUTION.
The American News Exchange was in existence about three months when the postal authorities, acting upon complaints, investigated it and found that it was carried on in violation of the United States laws. The Postmaster at Cincinnati was instructed to refuse to deliver letters containing securities and the exchange was forced out.

The testimony of Messrs. Cappelletti, J. M. Boyle and Guy Webber showed that no management had been perfected to take any news gathered, neither had any arrangement been made with a telegraph company to transmit news. Transportation cards had been furnished, to honor which no arrangement had been made with any railroad company. Theatrical admissions were also issued without any provision with proprietors to honor them, though they were recognized at certain

The association closed, but, says the committee, no efforts were made to reimburse those who had contributed various sums to become members. Advertisements had been placed in the newspapers all over the country offering the advantages indicated above to those who would become members and contribute news.

A large number of contribution members, paying from \$2 to \$10, were secured, and they were promised a certain per cent of profits. The aggregate amount paid could not be ascertained, but the committee thinks the *Mansfield Herald's* estimate of \$4,375 is approximately correct. Mr. Cappel-

Secretary and Treasurer, and Guy Webber, active manager, though the name of M. McCarthy appears on some of the printed matter as manager. The tes-

Mr. Cappellar is Chairman of the Republican State Executive Committee, and the intimations in the report that he has misappropriated funds, neglected the duties of his office and been connected with a ques-

ACRES OF BANANAS.

A New York Firm Expects to Ship a Cargo Daily From a Cuban Plantation—Will Monopolize the Trade.
Thirty years ago a wagon load of bananas

years ago a like amount of tomatoes would have supplied the demand. It looks now as though could bananas be grown here they would soon become a staple of diet. The standard tomato is also a staple. It would also appear that the banana appetite is growing in the rest of the world as well as here. The plantations which are from year to year projected are of dimensions such as to challenge belief in sections where the fruit has not yet obtained a foothold. It is estimated that an acre planted in bananas will yield as much food as five acres of wheat, and since transportation facilities have been so improved

earth, the banana must be grown in quantity to feed the world.

Thomas H. McGowan, of Liberty street, yesterday called attention to the latest great move in the culture of the fruit. Cromwell & Dumora, of New York, have secured an island near the mouth of the Amazon, in Brazil, for developing the finest bananas ever seen in the United States. Some of the bunches are very nearly as large as flour barrels. Their plantations are as large as the city of New York. The Railways traverse it so as to rush the fruit to the shore, and the crops now maturing on 105,000 acres is 1,500,000 bushels. Beginning with September 1st, the fruit will be shipped to New York every day. The amount of money already expended on the plantation is \$500,000. Labor there is cheap, and from this

picking and shipment. The firm expects to control the trade in the United States. It has long since practically gone out of the hands of the "Eytalian."

A CHEERFUL HUSBAND.

He Throws His Child Against the Wall and Tries to Murder His Wife.

LEBANON, April 12.—Paul Feighly took

on a load of the ardent yesterday, went home very much under the influence,

things picking up his little 4-year-old girl and throwing it against the wall with such force as to inflict serious injuries; broke up nearly all the glass and chinaware the house contained, chopped down one of the doors and cut up his wife's clothesline.

monstrate when the brute aimed a vicious blow at her head with a hatchet."

Fortunately he missed her, and the force of the blow causing him to lose his balance, he fell on the hatchet and severed the radial artery of his right arm. Unfortunately for his family and the community in general, Dr. Leibert dropped in and attended to his injuries before he bled to death.

JAPANESE ART, *this country's for household decoration is the subject of an article by Mary Gay Humphreys in to-morrow's DISPATCH.*